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KENNETH E. MACKLIN
MILDE, HOFFBERG & MACKLIN
10 BANK STREET
SUITE 460
WHITE PLAINS NY 10606

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IM31/0318

EXAMINER	
GRIFFIN, S	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1731	10

DATE MAILED: 03/18/99

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

Commissioner of Patents

1. The reply filed on 12-4-98 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): (1) Claims 1 and 10 have been rewritten and indicate that they are "Amended", but they fail to provide underlining below the matter added to the claims and brackets around the matter deleted from the claims as is required by 37 CFR 1.121; (2) An amended Fig. 1 has been submitted but a sketch showing the proposed changes to Fig. 1, in red ink, has not been provided (37 CFR 1.121(3) (ii)); (3) A new Fig. 5 has been submitted but an amendment to the "Brief Description of the Drawings" (page 9) has not been provided (Note: reference number "107" in Fig. 5 has been used to identify to two different elements.). (4) The objection to the disclosure on page 12, line 12 has not been addressed in the reply. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

2. Also note, paragraph 6 of the "Remarks" section of the reply is confusing since it appears that the German priority document did not contain a Fig. 5 thus it is not clear how the inserted text relating to Fig. 5 and the inserted text on page 10 were unintentionally omitted when re-typing the English translation of the German priority document, it is requested that applicant provide the page and line number where the inserted material can be found in the German priority document in order to clear up the confusion regarding the statement in paragraph 6 of the reply.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven P. Griffin whose telephone number is (703) 308-1164. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30 AM-4:00 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stan Silverman, can be reached on (703) 308-3837. All official faxes for this Group should be directed to fax phone numbers (703) 305-3599 or 7718, any unofficial faxes should be directed to fax phone number (703) 305-7115.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0651.

Steven P. Griffin
3-16-99
STEVEN P. GRIFFIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AU 1731